



## Advisory Board News

- The Haub School Advisory Board had a successful **fall meeting on campus on September 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>** where we welcomed new members **Anne Pendergast** of Big Horn and **Justin Spicer** of Rock Springs. **Rebecca Watson** of Cody is the new advisory board chair.
- Former Haub School director **Harold Bergman** and advisory board members **John Turner** and **Rich Innes** discussed the early days of the Haub School and Ruckelshaus Institute and the impactful legacy **Al Simpson** and **Bill Ruckelshaus** created that we now continue here at the University of Wyoming.
- The next meeting will be in Gillette April 30th and May 1st, 2026

## Academic Programs

- We have **380 undergraduate and graduate students** this semester.
- We've launched our first online ENRS courses as part of our new **Online M.S. in Environment, Natural Resources & Society** program.
- We're also launching two online graduate certificates: one in **ENR Law and Policy** and one in **Collaborative Practice**.

## Student Services

- 20 new students participated in a freshmen **outdoor experience trip** Aug 12th-15th. These students have an interest in the environment or the outdoors and live together in the Environment and Outdoors floor in North Hall. We also had a welcome BBQ for their families with 75 attendees.
- This is the Haub School's fourth year running an **orientation retreat for incoming graduate students** in the residential M.S. in Environment, Natural Resources, and Society (ENRS) program. This year students interacted with Centennial Visitor's Center employees, the University of Wyoming Outdoor program, Centennial and Saratoga locals and Haub School faculty. Students witnessed low water levels in the Encampment River Canyon, heard about increased recreational pressure on the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest, and discussed strategies for success in an interdisciplinary environmental studies program. Most of the students rallied for a 5:30AM departure time to catch sunrise at the Saratoga hot springs. Coyotes yipped in the evening.
- Wednesday, Sept 10<sup>th</sup> students got a free professional headshot with Popcam and had their **resume reviewed by the Haub School's career professionals**.
- Students visited with Wildlife Conservation Officers from **South Dakota Game, Fish, & Parks** on September 11<sup>th</sup>. These UW alumni shared about their career paths and current roles managing wildlife, fisheries, water, and land resources.
- Sept 19th was our **annual pancake breakfast**.
- On October 1<sup>st</sup> students and alumni will participate in a lightning round of **interview practice with employers from around the state**. Participants will practice answering interview questions and employers will share some common mistakes applicants make when answering tough questions.
- **Applications are open** for 2026 field and global programs:
  - [Winter Ecology](#) • Grand Teton National Park • January 2026
  - [Canaries & Climate](#) • Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain • January 2026
  - [Wild & Working Lands](#) • Nepal • January 2026
  - [Expedition Leadership](#) • Canyons, UT • Spring Break 2026
  - [Conservation & Development in the Arctic Circle](#) • Svalbard & Norway • Summer 2026
  - [Canyonlands: Climate, Water, Culture](#) • Grand Canyon National Park • Summer 2026
  - [Place & Landscapes](#) • Queensland, Australia • Summer 2026

## Faculty Updates

- In August we welcomed **Matt Hamilton** as an Associate Professor and the new Eldon and Beverly Spicer Chair in Environment and Natural Resources



### Ruckelshaus Institute

- The Ruckelshaus Institute, in partnership with the USDA Forest Service's Mountain Planning Services Group, is supporting forest planning in our region. A team including faculty, post-docs, and graduate students has been working to support planning processes on the **Bridger-Teton, Manti-La Sal, and Black Hills national forests**. Our work has ranged from planning public engagement strategies to facilitating meetings with cooperating agencies, resulting in excellent applied project experience for students pursuing our minor in collaboration.
- Save the date! The next Emerging Issue Forum will be April 21-22, 2026, in Laramie, Wyoming. Topic to be announced.

### Biodiversity Institute

- **Associate Director search:** In-person interviews scheduled for October.
- **International field course: *Conserving Biodiversity in Borneo*** (May 2025) included 10 UW students and 1 Malaysian student. We plan to run this course again in 2026 and become a core element of the *Conserving Biodiversity* certificate programs currently under development. Some donors to the BI doubled their annual gift based on the course's success.

### Wyoming Conservation Corps

- Wyoming Conservation Corps offices are now in Crane Hall
- This season, we fielded three crews, including our Veterans Trail Crew, who worked on impactful projects across the state in collaboration with valued partners such as **Devon Energy, Wyoming State Parks, Trout Unlimited, the National Forest Foundation, the U.S. Forest Service, the Rough Riders of the Rockies, and American Trails**.
- Together, our crews completed a diverse range of projects, including the construction of bog bridges, tree work and corridor clearing, and comprehensive trail maintenance—such as rock work, retaining walls, grade reversals, drainage improvements, and tread restoration. Additional accomplishments included building beaver dam analogs and wildlife guzzlers, installing wildlife-friendly fencing, and creating landscaping and flower bed features.

### Development

- The Haub School had its **greatest fundraising year ever** in between July 1, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2025. Thanks to the wonderful support of **356 donors**, the Haub School received **\$12.38 million** in outright gifts and gift commitments. The generosity of our donors this year will have an impact on generations of future Haubies!

### Save the Date

- 30 September: An Evening with the Black Mambas in Jackson, WY
- 1 & 2 October: Managing Wildlife in Large Landscapes, Jackson, WY
- 9 & 10 October: Mountainfilm on Tour in Laramie hosted by the Haub School